

THE ALLIANCE HERALD

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THE INDEPENDENT VOTER

After all, the independent voter, the voter who takes into consideration the fitness of candidates for office more than their party affiliations, is the voter who is doing most to "purify politics" and give us government in the interest of the common people rather than of a favored few. It makes easier work for election boards in counting the votes after the polls close if a large number of "straight tickets" have been voted, but that does not usually make for good government.

MIGHT HAVE BEEN WORSE

A misfortune is seldom so bad but what it might have been worse. A reporter on one of our Illinois exchanges, The Cuba Journal, in writing the story of an automobile accident, in which a nearly new Ford turned over twice, throwing the occupants out and demolishing the car, takes the view that being skinned and bruised about the arms and legs is hardly worth mentioning if the face is not disfigured; that having the skull slightly fractured, a long cut on the head and a big patch of skin and hair torn off means that the victim was somewhat scratched up; that a sprain or two and a few bumps and being rendered unconscious for a time were not serious; and that being very nearly skinned all over, both wrists sprained, one eye closed, nose twisted out of plumb, and the whole face a mass of cuts and bruises, did not constitute anything of a really dangerous character.

Perhaps the fact that three girls, whom the boys had passed just before the accident, hurried to their assistance, tearing up their white undershirts to bandage their injuries, helped to relieve the seriousness of the situation.

Here is an extract from the newspaper account which was printed under caption, "Even a Ford Can't Stand Double Flip-Flop and Live":

Anyway, while running at a high rate of speed, the car suddenly turned over twice, throwing the occupants out. Voorhees was skinned and bruised about the arms and legs but his face was not disfigured. Lloyd Watson had a slightly fractured skull, a long cut on his head and a big patch of skin and hair torn off, and was somewhat scratched up. Ed Evans was rendered unconscious for a time but his injuries were not serious, being a sprain or two and a few bumps. Jack Evans was very nearly skinned all over, his wrists were both sprained, one eye closed, his nose twisted out of plumb and his whole face a mass of cuts and bruises, but nothing of a really dangerous character.

FRANCE HAS BEST ROADS IN WORLD

In France, where they have the best roads of any country in the world, the highways are divided into several classes, but all of them are supervised by the national government, which maintains a bureau of roads and bridges, and supports a school for the education of the engineers and inspectors who are employed in this bureau. This method of building and maintaining roads in France was started by the first Napoleon, who appears to have been the earliest European statesman who clearly saw the economic advantage of proper highways, and who at the same time had the power to carry out what he wished. The effect of these good roads in France has been wonderful. They have brought all of the various parts of the country nearer together; they have made country life less lonesome, and they have reduced the cost of transportation of country produce to a minimum. France is the only country in Europe where the agricultural classes are not dissatisfied, and where they do not feel that they have a harder time than those who labor in other fields.

Civilized nations have good roads—savage and unenlightened countries do not. The highways of travel are a gauge of progress a people have made from barbarism to civilization.

How are your roads?
The price at which a farm will sell for is regulated by its nearness to market, and the quality of its neighborhood roads. To increase the selling price of your farm, work for good roads.

Good roads will benefit the farmer more than he ever dreams of. On an average, the farm products of this country must be hauled by wagon, miles to market. There is more room for saving in this wagon haul than in a railroad haul of one thousand miles. The railroads of the country charge only eight-tenths of a cent for hauling a ton a mile.

AUTO REPAIRING

You will save money and time, as well as having your work done promptly and properly, by taking your auto to competent mechanics to be repaired. We guarantee our work to be satisfactory and our constantly increasing list of satisfied customers proves that we are giving satisfaction.

The next time your car needs attention, bring it to

NICOLAI & SON

We will move this week into our new location, the new, modern garage building at the northeast corner of Second and Laramie, where we will have a completely equipped machine shop and will handle all kinds of work.

"SPUD SPECIAL" WAS SEEN EVERYWHERE

Prugh and Seidell Roamed over Box Butte at Large During Potato-Selling Season with Bulletins

During the potato selling season in Box Butte county it was a very common sight to see A. E. Prugh and County Agent F. M. Seidell in almost any part of the county where potatoes were grown. They made the county in Seidell's Ford runabout which the potato growers and commission men came to call the "spud special."



F. M. SEIDELL

The "spud special" was used many times to get a quick distribution on the market news service reports which were made in Alliance by Mr. Prugh, who was the federal representative from the Office of Markets and Rural Organization of the United States Department of Agriculture, which maintained an office with the county agent in the court house during the selling season. This was the first year this service had been given the farmers and was the means of saving or making them thousands of dollars without one cent of extra cost to them. The idea is said to have been first conceived by County Agent Seidell. He took the matter up with the authorities with the result that western Nebraska was given this service.



A. E. PRUGH

Prugh Knew His Business
Mr. Prugh after leaving Alliance went to Washington, D. C., where he is now market assistant of the Office of Markets and Rural Organization. He was raised on a farm in Ohio, received his education in the county schools and Wittenberg Academy, Springfield, Ohio. His produce experience was received in the service of a firm in Springfield. After spending three years in the postal savings department at Washington Mr. Prugh was transferred to the Office of Markets and Rural Organization where he has been doing efficient and valuable work. When the Kansas City office was started he was placed in charge and remained there until he chose to come to Alliance on this new proposition. He says the experience he got in the field is of great value to him.

Seidell a Big Help
F. M. Seidell, in charge of the county agent work, is enabled to be of service to the farmers of Box Butte county through the co-operation of the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture and Box Butte County Farmers' Association. He was born and raised on a Nebraska farm, got his preliminary education in Nebraska county schools and the high school at Chadron. Following his graduation at Chadron he went to Ames, Iowa where he graduated from the Iowa State Agricultural College. Before coming to Box Butte county as county agent he was in partnership with his father on a ranch near Chadron. Mr. Seidell understands his work and has filled his office to the greatest of satisfaction to all. There is no department of co-operative extension work or agriculture and home economics but what he can render valuable service in, either himself or by the securing of workers from his state or federal government.

Mr. Seidell has been chosen to deliver the opening address at the January 18th meeting of the Nebraska State Horticultural Society, week of organized agriculture. The subject of his address will be, "The Importance of the Potato Industry in Nebraska."

CENTRAL SCHOOL PROGRAM BROUGHT IN TOTAL OF \$128
The three programs and the sale of refreshments and fancy work at the Central school building Friday night resulted in the taking in of a total of \$128. This amount is to be placed to the credit of the piano fund. The program was a success from every viewpoint.

INVESTIGATED THE COAL SITUATION

Commercial Club Makes Extensive Inquiry as to Cause of Coal Shortage and present prices

It has been said that you can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time. This statement seems to be true in the present high cost of living situation. The egg men are holding large quantities of eggs in storage, the mine operators are soaking the people with a high price on coal, paper manufacturers are grabbing unholy profits on paper stocks, commission men, wholesalers, middlemen and others are following the lead of the big ones and the public is suffering—but the public is getting wise. Chicago has decreed a boycott on fifty cent a dozen eggs, and so it goes.

Situation In General
Here in Alliance the situation is much the same as in other sections of the country. One of the things that is holding the attention of the public right now is the coal shortage and the high price of that product. Some place the blame one place and some place the blame another. There are all kinds of rumors afloat and it was because of this that the Alliance Commercial Club made an extensive investigation to ascertain just who was at fault—whether the railroad company was holding up cars, whether the local dealer was soaking into the people or whether the mine operators were getting dishonest profits. After making the investigation Secretary Bushnell, of the Commercial Club says:

Mine Owners to Blame
"One cannot from a local vision center the blame for these conditions, but it is safe to say that while there is just cause for some increase in the prices yet the mine owners are undoubtedly taking advantage of the excuses and increasing the margin of profit."

The reader will better understand this when he has completed the reading of the finding of the club. The Commercial Club's report, made after an extensive investigation by Secretary Bushnell, follows:

The great amount of discussion which has taken place of late, not only in a national sense but in this local sphere, caused the Commercial Club to make an investigation from a local standpoint into the cause of the coal shortage and especially into the reasons touching on the increase in price of all coal. There has been considerable criticism of late which became so strong that some parties questioned the fairness of the local dealers in the matter. A study of the conditions here will tend to entirely exonerate the local dealers from any blame in connection with the shortage or the high prices that prevail.

Supply from Two Districts
The main source of the supply of coal is from two districts, the Wyoming fields and the Colorado fields. The advance in Wyoming coal has not been as great as that in Colorado coal, for reasons which will be apparent from a study of the case. The price of coal at the mines has been materially advanced during the past three months. Colorado coal of all kinds was quoted on October 23 at \$3 per ton on an average. On November 13 the price advanced upon this same class of coal to \$3.50 per ton, and November 20 that same coal was quoted at \$5 per ton. Those prices are quoted f. o. b. at the mines.

About Freight Rates
The average rate for freight per ton is from \$3.00 to \$3.50, so if the consumer will consider the f. o. b. prices of the coal at the mines plus the freight delivered, plus the overhead charges he will see that the local dealer is not making any more than a fair profit.

The Alleged Cause
The cause for the advance price at the mines as given out in a letter from the mine owners is this: Shortage of men, shortage of railroad cars, possibility of a railroad strike, demurrage charges upon cars and the substantial increase of all material used in operating.

Shortage Expensive
It developed that the car shortage, which is nation wide and very acute, has caused the mine operators no end of trouble. They have been compelled to pay their men on a full weekly basis but due to the inability to get cars the men have not actually worked in some places more than two or three days a week. It is necessary to pay the men for full time in order to hold them because the scarcity of labor would permit them to go elsewhere and be employed continually. There has been a great increase in the demand for coal this year with the factories working over time, foreign countries purchasing heavy and the railroads using more coal than ever before in their history. It must seem apparent on the face of things, that the price of coal must advance in accordance with the theory of supply and demand.

Can't Get Orders Filled
As evidence of the shortage of coal, one local dealer in Alliance has orders placed dating from August for over one hundred cars of coal which have as yet not been delivered.

Unable to Deliver Coal
The situation in the Colorado fields seems to be due in a large measure, according to the contention of the mine owners, to a car shortage. One mine reports that during the past month they have been unable to deliver but seven hundred tons of coal weekly, whereas at normal times they were producing about two thousand tons per day. That is probably responsible for the heavy increase in the price of all coal from the coal fields. Coal from the Wyoming fields has not advanced as much as in the Colorado fields and the answer to that might be this fact.

Burlington Not to Blame
Mr. Young, General Suppt., of the Burlington at Alliance reports that the

A GIFT Suggestion Portraits of the Children for Christmas, 1916



The Photographer in your town.

Phone 981 for Appointment

P. Van Graven

OVER MOLLRING'S

number of cars delivered to the Sheridan and Irby districts this year are greatly in excess of the number last year. Here are the figures on the number of cars delivered at the Mines.

Sheridan Coal Company:	
September 1915	1288
September 1916	1348
October 1915	1642
October 1916	2161
November 1915	1622
November 1916	3069

From those figures it appears that the Sheridan Field will receive a great many more cars this year than in 1915.

The Burlington report for the Big Horn Coalfields Co., shows as follows:

September 1915	822
September 1916	849
October 1915	1023
October 1916	1000
November 1915	1025
November 1916	1082

This shows a decrease in the number of cars available in 1916 over 1915.

No Relief at Hand
Notwithstanding the fact that the Sheridan Fields have had their full quota of cars, yet the price upon that coal has advanced. It is impossible for the demand to be so heavy, material so high with a car shortage in other fields without resulting in a raise on a field which is not materially effected even by a car shortage. The local coal dealers do not feel that there is any immediate relief at hand, in fact the situation might easily become worse any day. If the Colorado District has a heavy snow it will mean a shutting down of the mines.

Supply Here is Low
The supply of coal on hand in Alliance now is very short, the dealers report that they have sold a great deal more coal this season than in prior years and deduct from that fact the conclusion that a number of people have purchased in advance and are therefore well supplied.

Indications at this time point to an additional increase in Wyoming coal within fifteen days. It is impossible to review these facts without arriving at the conclusion that the local dealers in coal are doing everything in their power to remedy the evil. There is no combination here to increase prices and the entire cause may be directly traced to the heavy demand plus the other matters mentioned in the fore part of this article.

One cannot from a local vision center the blame for these conditions, but it is safe to say that while there is just cause for some increase in the prices yet the mine owners are increasing the margin of profit thereon.

Sufferer From Indigestion Relieved
"Before taking Chamberlain's Tablets my husband suffered for several years from indigestion, causing him to have pains in the stomach and distress after eating. Chamberlain's Tablets relieved him of these spells right away," writes Mrs. Thomas Casey, Geneva, N. Y. Obtainable everywhere.
Adv.—Nov

COMMISSION MAY HOLD HEARING HERE IN JANUARY

That there is a need for improved telegraph service in Alliance is conceded. Acting on the need of better facilities the Commercial Club, through the secretary, H. M. Bushnell, Jr., recently filed a formal application with the Nebraska State Railway Commission, complaining of the service given Alliance patrons and asking the commission to make an order making it compulsory for the Western Union to give better service.
Secretary Bushnell this week re-

WANT AD DEPARTMENT

FOR RENT
Two Furnished Rooms for rent. 321 Big Horn. Phone Walnut 8092. nov 30-21-7846

Furnished room for rent in modern residence close to downtown business district. Furnace heat and bath. Phone 175.

ROOMS FOR RENT—132 Cheyenne Avenue, Alliance, Nebraska. 14-11-7822

WANTED
WANTED—A partner silent or active for a hotel of the high paying kind. Must have \$1500 cash. See F. L. Smith, Alliance, Nebr. At the Box Butte Rooming House. 52-31-7853

LADY COOK WANTED, without children. For ranch work. Phone 471. 39-11

FOR SALE
AUTOS FOR SALE—A second-hand roadster and a second-hand Ford touring car for sale cheap. Inquire at the Sturgeon garage. 52-11-7848

FOR SALE—Ranch within ten miles of Alliance, 1900 acres, including some farm land suitable for alfalfa. Will sell part interest or whole ranch. A bargain and a money-maker. Address Box 7823, care Alliance Herald. 50-11-7823

Good second-hand Sewing Machine for sale cheap. See at Keep-U-Neat Tailor Shop.

FOR SALE—One lot. Situation, Lot 10, Block 3 of Hitchcock, Hills and Snedeker's addition to Alliance, Nebr., to highest bidder for cash. Write Mrs. Delia S. Dainton, Bartlett, Iowa. 51-51-7733

FOR SALE—Heating stove in good condition. Cheap. Phone 340. Lloyd Thomas, Herald office. 50-31

MODERN nine-room house, located in choice residence district in Alliance, for sale at reasonable price. Phone 340 or inquire at Herald office. 42-11-7636

THREE good organs for sale. Practically new. Taken in exchange on pianos. For sale at bargain prices. Wiker Music House, Alliance, Nebr. 42-11-7626

MISCELLANEOUS
MONEY TO LOAN—On Box Butte county land and ranches in the sand hills. No delay in making the loan. We inspect our lands and furnish the money at once. J. C. McCorkle, McCorkle Building, Alliance, Nebr. 1-11-654

PARTIES WISHING SINGER
SEWING MACHINES should phone 15 or leave word at Snyder's Cigar Store. Phone and the local agent, D. G. Bates, will call on you. 51-31-7823

RECORD FOR TRAINMEN
Railroad men can secure a very useful book at The Herald office. It is a daily time book for trainmen and engineers. The price is reasonable. 6-11-7728

MOVE FURNITURE SAFELY
We have equipped our dray wagons and auto truck with the latest appliances for moving furniture without marring or scratching or damage. Up-to-date wagon pads will be used by us on all moving jobs. JOHN R. SNYDER, Phone 15. 37-11-5950

Money to loan on real estate. No unnecessary delay in getting loan. Apply to H. M. Bullock, Room 4, Reddish Block, Alliance.

received a communication from H. T. Clark, Jr., chairman of the commission acknowledging the receipt of the application and stating that the complaint has been filed. Chairman Clark intimates that the commission will conduct a hearing in Alliance at their first convenience. It is very probable that the hearing will not take place until after the first of the year as the present personnel of the commission will be altered after that time and the old commission very likely will not desire to take up the matter in the brief time intervening.

The plan suggested by the club to remedy the service is to separate the local business from the station office business and establish an uptown office to handle strictly city business.

FIREMEN'S BALL AT MORRILL
The Morrill volunteer fire department is giving an annual ball, the third, at the Morrill opera house tonight. Music will be furnished by the Mitchell Saxophone orchestra, and a rousing good time is expected.

SENATOR ADAMS AT ALLIANCE
George M. Adams of Crawford, state senator-elect from the 28th district, which includes Alliance, was in the city Tuesday visiting friends. The senator is known by his many friends as "George" who find it rather hard to think of him as "honorable" and "senator". The Herald predicts that Senator Adams will make a good showing for his district in the legislature this winter.

CITY CARRIERS TO MAKE ONE DELIVERY THURSDAY

The city mail carriers will make one complete delivery Thanksgiving day morning. Registered letters may be received and delivered at the general delivery window which will be open from 10 o'clock until noon. The money-order window will be closed all day Thursday. All departments of the post office will be closed from noon on.

All Alliance banks will be closed all day Thursday and business houses will close about noon.